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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SIL-00	SNP-00	SP-00
	SR-00	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	RPE-01
	CORE-00	/063W					

-----08E6FC 241603Z /38

P 241554Z NOV 93
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5105
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
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YADUNDE FOR DATT
GENEVA FOR RMA

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, PGOV, PHUM, RW
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT TO RESUME JOINT SESSIONS WITH RPF
REF: (A) KIGALI 4164, (B) KIGALI 4117

1. (C) SUMMARY. THE PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED 11/23
THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL RESUME JOINT SESSIONS WITH
THE RPF, REVERSING A UNILATERAL DECISION OF THE
MINISTER OF DEFENSE (REF A). SEVERAL POLITICAL
PARTIES DEMANDED THE DEFENSE MINISTER RESIGN.

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SKEPTICISM IS GROWING OVER ASSUMPTION THAT THE RPF COMMITTED THE RUHENGARI ATROCITIES. UNAMIR'S INVESTIGATION IS STILL IN PROGRESS. THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE RPF IS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN KEEPING THE PEACE PROCESS ON TRACK AND SENDS A STRONG SIGNAL TO THOSE WHO MAY WISH TO BLOCK IT. END SUMMARY.

JOINT GOR-RPF SESSIONS TO RESUME

2. (U) THE PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED ON RADIO RWANDA EVENING OF 11/23 THE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF GOVERNMENT-RPF JOINT COMMISSIONS. SHE SAID, IN REVERSING THE UNILATERAL DECISION OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE (REF A), THAT ONLY THE GOVERNMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE RPF COULD MODIFY DECISIONS TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ARUSHA PEACE ACCORD. SHE NOTED THAT THE JOINT COMMISSIONS WERE PUT IN PLACE BY THE GOVERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE PEACE ACCORD. THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO LAID OUT A

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STRATEGY FOR PROMOTING DISCUSSIONS OF SECURITY IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE (DMZ) AND CALLED ON UNAMIR TO MAKE ITS REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE KILLINGS IN RUHENGARI AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PARTIES CONDEMN DEFENSE MINISTER

3. (U) AT A PRESS CONFERENCE 11/23, THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE GOVERNMENT, EXCEPT THE MRND, CALLED FOR THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE TO RESIGN FOR HAVING ISSUED THE UNILATERAL COMMUNIQUE IN CONTRADICTION TO GOVERNMENT POLICY AND IN DETRIMENT TO THE PEACE PROCESS. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY CONDEMNED THE KILLINGS IN RUHENGARI. THE PARTIES--MDR, PSD, PDC, AND PL--ALSO CRITICIZED PRIVATE RADIO STATION RTLM FOR CONTINUING PROPAGANDA CONTRARY TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE ACCORD. THE STATION IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY ADVOCATES OF HUTU SUPREMACY.

DOCUMENT SOURCE SUSPECT

4. (C) THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TOLD CHARGE AND VISITING AF/RA MILITARY ADVISOR THAT HE HAD REFUSED TO FORWARD THE DEFENSE MINISTER'S COMMUNIQUE TO UNAMIR

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COMMANDER, GENERAL DALLAIRE, UNDER FOREIGN MINISTRY
SEAL. HE SAID THE DOCUMENT DID NOT REPRESENT GOVERNMENT
POLICY AND WAS CONTRARY TO THE PEACE ACCORD. HE SAID HE
WAS ALSO SUSPICIOUS OF THE ORIGIN OF THE LETTER. HE
SAID IT DID NOT ARRIVE ON MINISTER OF DEFENSE STATIONARY
NOR HAD IT BEEN TYPED ON THE SAME MACHINE AS OTHER
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE DOCUMENTS. HE SAID HE SUSPECTED IT
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HAD BEEN DRAFTED BY "SOME POLITICIANS" AND THEN
PRESENTED TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE FOR SIGNATURE.

NO CONSULTATION

5. (C) SOURCES IN THE MILITARY ACKNOWLEDGED THERE HAD
BEEN NO/NO CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE
AND KEY MILITARY OFFICERS BEFORE THE COMMUNIQUE WAS
ISSUED. A SOURCE AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SAID BOTH THE ARMY AND GENDARMERIE CHIEFS OF STAFF HAD
ADMITTED TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THAT THEY
HAD KNOWN NOTHING OF THE COMMUNIQUE BEFORE IT WAS READ
ON THE RADIO.

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MIMISTERIAL SESSION "HOT"

6. (C) HEATED DEBATE REPORTEDLY MARKED THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS SESSION THAT REVERSED THE MINISTER OF
DEFENSE'S DECISION TO SUSPEND TALKS WITH THE RPF.
SOURCES SUGGEST THAT MOST OF THE MINISTERS DISAGREED
WITH THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE.
DIFFERENCES CAME, HOWEVER, OVER HOW TO REVERSE THE
DECISION AND ALLOW HIM TO SAVE FACE. THE MINISTER
HIMSELF WAS STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND SOMEWHAT HUMBLE ABOUT
THE REVERSAL IN MEETING WITH CHARGE AND AF/RA VISITOR.
THE MINISTER SAID THAT THE JOINT SESSIONS ARE SCHEDULED
TO RESUME NOVEMBER 29.

GROWING SKEPTICISM

7. (C) MRD OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN

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AFFAIRS HINTED TO EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT THEY BELIEVED PERSONS OTHER THAN THE RPF MAY HAVE COMMITTED THE ATROCITIES IN RUHENGERI. UNDER SUSPICION BY MANY ARE THE HUTU SUPREMICIST CDR, HARD-LINE MRND MEMBERS, OR POSSIBLY THE INTERAHAMWE, THE MRND YOUTH GROUP THAT WAS ALWAYS SUSPECTED OF HAVING PRESIDENTIAL GUARD AND GENDARMES SECRETLY AMONG ITS RANKS.

COMMENT

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8. (C) THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE RPF--AND THE DEFENSE MINISTER'S ACCEPTANCE OF IT--IS A CRITICAL ONE FOR THE RWANDAN PEACE PROCESS. IT SHOULD SEND A STRONG SIGNAL TO THOSE WHO MIGHT WISH TO PERSIST IN EFFORTS TO DERAIL THE PROCESS. IT WILL BE IMPORTANT THAT THE DECISION TO DIALOGUE HOLD REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME OF THE UNAMIR INQUIRY. CRUCIAL NOW WILL BE WHETHER THE RPF WILL RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE GOVERNMENT'S OVERTURE AND RETURN TO THE JOINT COMMISSION SESSIONS NEXT WEEK. END COMMENT.

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